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INFLATOR FOR AIR BAG

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

[0001] This Nonprovisional application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) on U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 60/416,883 and 60/447,328 filed on October 9, 2002 and February 14, 2003, respectively; and under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) on Patent Application Nos. 2002-288574 and 2003-30517 filed in Japan on October 1, 2002 and February 7, 2003, respectively; the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Background of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to an inflator for an air bag whose stability at the time of activation is improved, and, in particular, to an inflator for a side collision in which a developing pattern or the like can be adjusted finely according to a variety of physical builds of passengers (a difference in overall height, a variety of heights, sitting heights or the like).

Description of the Related Art

[0003] As an inflator for an air bag mounted to such a vehicle as an automobile, there have been provided various inflators including an inflator for a driver side, an inflator for a passenger side, an inflator for a side collision, an inflator for a curtain air bag, an inflator for a pretensioner and the like according to their mounting positions, their objects and the like.

[0004] Among them, the inflator for a side collision is used in an air bag system (an air bag system for a side collision) for improving safety at the time of side collision of a vehicle, and it is mounted to a seat back or the like in many cases. The side

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